

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 147

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dianne Cozart upon her induction into the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Dianne Cozart is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cozart was recently inducted into the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Dianne Cozart joins the ranks of numerous educators who have been previously inducted into the circle of honor at the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, which is co-sponsored each year by Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and overseen by a Board of Governors that represents major educational organizations statewide; and

WHEREAS, wholly deserving of this honor, Mrs. Cozart served with acumen and alacrity for thirty years until her 2002 retirement from Wilson County's Southside Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching the students, Dianne Cozart also served as their friend and counselor, and was a mentor to other teachers as well as a being a leader in her school and community; an extremely talented and compassionate educator, Mrs. Cozart worked assiduously during her career to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as students and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cozart is a 1971 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, where she received a B.S. in Elementary Education; she taught Physical Education at Middle

Tennessee Christian School in Murfreesboro while working towards her undergraduate degree and was soon hired to coach the school's first girls' basketball team; and

WHEREAS, Dianne Cozart went on to teach second, third, and fifth grades at Southside Elementary School and coached four basketball teams for two age levels at the Southside YMCA; and

WHEREAS, proficient and keenly interested in a wide range of academic fields, Mrs. Cozart taught junior-high-level English and Reading as well as Math and Science, including coaching Science Olympiads for several years; she also became the school's first computer teacher and attended Tennessee Space Week Teachers' Workshops; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dianne Cozart has been named Teach of the Year several times through the years at different grade levels, and she has also been named Wilson County Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Mrs. Cozart is grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband of twenty-eight years, Cliff; and

WHEREAS, Dianne Cozart truly serves as an inspiration to the educational community of Tennessee, and she epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, Dianne Cozart's life of teaching and service should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend Dianne Cozart for her meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, congratulate her upon being inducted into the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.